

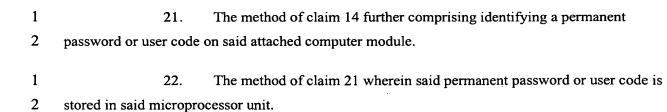


WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

I	1. A computer module, said module comprising:.		
2	an enclosure, said enclosure being insertable into a console;		
3	a central processing unit in said enclosure, said central processing unit		
4	comprising a microprocessor based integrated circuit chip;		
5	a hard disk drive in said enclosure, said hard disk drive being coupled to said		
6	central processing unit; and		
7	a programmable memory device in said enclosure, said programmable memory		
8	device being configurable to store a password for preventing a possibility of unauthorized use of		
9	said hard disk drive.		
1	2. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a host interface		
2	controller for providing a status of a locking device in said enclosure.		
1			
1	3. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a mechanical		
2	locking device that is coupled to said programmable memory device.		
1	4. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a host interface		
2	controller coupled to a mechanical locking device, said host interface controller being coupled		
3	to said programmable memory device.		
1	5. The computer module of claim 1 wherein said programmable memory		
2	device comprises a flash memory device.		
1	6. The computer module of claim 1 wherein said programmable memory		
2	device comprises a flash memory device having at least 8 Mbits of cells and greater.		
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1	7. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a security program		
2	in a main memory.		
1	8. The computer module of claim 7 wherein said security program		
2	comprises a code for storing a password on said programmable memory device.		
1	10 9. The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a host interface		
2	controller coupled to a solenoid that drives a mechanical lock in a first position to a second		
3	position.		

	11	10	
1	10 .	The computer module of claim 8 wherein said solenoid also drives said	
2	mechanical lock from said second position to said first position.		
1	12 11 .	The computer module of claim 1 further comprising a real-time clock	
2	circuit coupled to said	central processing unit.	
1	9 12 .	The computer module of claim 8 wherein said security program	
2	comprises a code for checking a time from said real-time clock circuit.		
	-		
1	13.	The computer module of claim 11 further comprising a battery coupled	
2	to a host interface controller that includes said real-time clock.		
1	14.	A method for operating a computer system, said method comprising:	
2	insertin	ng an attached computer module ("ACM") into a bay of a modular	
3	computer system, said ACM comprising a microprocessor unit coupled to a mass memory		
4	storage device;		
5	applyir	ng power to said computer system and said ACM to execute a security	
6	program, said security	program being stored in said mass memory storage device; and	
7	promp	ting for a user password from a user on a display.	
1	15.	The method of claim 14 wherein said ACM comprises an enclosure that	
2	houses said microproce	essor unit and said mass memory storage device.	
1	16.	The method of claim 14 further comprising providing a user password	
2	to said security program	m.	
1	17.	The method of claim 14 further comprising a flash memory device for	
2	storing a desired password for said ACM.		
1	18.	The method of claim 17 wherein said flash memory device maintains	
2	said desired password when power is removed from said ACM.		
1	19.	The method of claim 18 wherein said flash memory device is coupled to	
2	a host interface controller that is coupled to said microprocessor based unit.		
1	20.	The method of claim 14 wherein said mass memory storage device	
2	comprises a code direc	ted to comparing said user password with a desired password.	





23. The method of claim 21 wherein said permanent password or user code is stored in a flash memory device coupled to said microprocessor unit.